in so complete and circumstantial a form as to constitute a classic of clinical description.

Historians of medicine, both in Portugal and outside, had written rhapsodically about the medical importance of Garcia d'Orta, without having any idea as to his origin. A brilliant piece of research, by a Portuguese scholar, Augusto da Silva Carvalho, has, however, recently established the fact that this great figure in the history of medicine was a Jew in everything but name. His forbears had been victims of the Forced Conversion in Portugal in 1497: some of his closest relatives were persecuted by the Inquisition as secret Judaisers: one of his sisters was burned alive: and only his timely death saved the great physician himself from arrest and trial on the same charge (his bones were, in fact, dug up and burned). It is more than likely that other of the greatest Spanish and Portuguese intellectual luminaries of the period, of whose lives we are at present insufficiently informed, belonged to the same category.

D'Orta's work was further developed by Cristoval Acosta, known as "The African"—a distinguished Portuguese surgeon, physician, botanist and traveller, of Marrano extraction, who spent some years in India practising medicine and subsequently undertook many long journeys in tropical countries for the purpose of studying natural history. His famous *Tractado delos drogas,* first published at Burgos in 1578, and partly based on material supplied by his illustrious predecessor, is still regarded as an authoritative work on

materia
medica and drugs.

Amatus Lusitanus is another of the great names in European medicine of the sixteenth century. His books are referred to even to-day for the immense store of case-history that they contain. He was born at Castel-Branco in Portugal in 1511, as Juan Rodrigo (the name